Dr. LAYARD's

ACCOUNT

OF THE

SOMERSHAM WATER.

Presented to the Medical Society
by the President.
Septr 24. 1776.

John Pearce Librarian

AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

SOMERSHAM WATER.

IN THE

County of HUNTINGDON.

Da veniam ſcriptis, quorum non gloria nobis
Cauſa, ſed utilitas officiumque fuit.

OVID, EPIST.



LONDON:
M.DCC.LXVII.
[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

TO THE

NOBILITY, GENTRY, CLERGY,

AND

INHABITANTS

OF THE

County of HUNTINGDON,

THIS

ACCOUNT

OF THE

SOMERSHAM WATER,

With the Author's beſt Wiſhes

For their Welfare and Proſperity,

And his moſt grateful Thanks

For the repeated Favors

Received from them

During twelve Years happy Reſidence

At HUNTINGDON,

IS INSCRIBED,

By their Moſt Obedient, and

Moſt Obliged Humble Servant,

DANIEL PETER LAYARD.

SEVERAL *persons being desirous of drinking the* SOMERSHAM *Water early in the season, and of having proper directions, the following account could not be so full as intended. The experiments to analyse the contents of the water, and the cases to prove its efficacy, are referred to a farther publication; as it would have been very ill-judged to have inserted herein the experiments which were communicated to* Dr. HEBERDEN, *and in his usual candid and obliging manner presented to the Royal Society, whose Committee have ordered them to be published in the next volume of the Philosophical Transactions.*

Lower Brook-Street, May 19, 1767.

AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

SOMERSHAM WATER.

THE County of *Huntingdon*, tho' one of the ſmalleſt, contains ſeveral ſprings of different kinds, ſome for common, and others for medicinal purpoſes. Mr. CAMDEN gives the earlieſt account of the Purgative Salt Waters, at *Hail-Weſton*; and a later writer, the anonymous compiler of *Magna Britannia Antiqua & Nova*, publiſhed in 1720, mentions, that *St. Neot*'s, and *St. Ives*, were famous for Medicinal Waters; but as no ſprings of ſuch a nature

are found within the limits of thoſe towns, they probably became noted by the reſidence of ſuch perſons who came to drink and uſe the purging *Hail-Weſton* Waters, either internally or outwardly, which are ſituated at about one mile and a half from *St. Neot*'s; or by the concourſe of thoſe who came to drink the Chalybeate Waters, on *Somerſham Heath*, about the diſtance of two miles and a half from *St. Ives*. Mr. CAMDEN takes no notice of the pure and excellent water, known at *Huntingdon*, from its ſituation, by the name of the *Huntingdon* Horſe-Common Water; of the pure limpid ſpring in *Holywell* Church-yard, much more famed in ſuperſtitious times for its great purity than any medicinal property; or of the Chalybeate Waters of *Nill-Well*, or *St. Agnes*'s-*Well* in *Papworth St. Agnes*; at *Elton-Hall*, Lord CARYSFORT's ſeat, and other light Chalybeate ſprings riſing in *Salome* wood, *Huntingdon* town, and many other places; nor did he probably know of a very ſtrong briny ſpring in a cloſe belonging to Sir ROBERT BERNARD, Bart. at *Bury* near *Ramſey*.

For Medicinal purpoſes, the waters chiefly to be recommended in this county, are the three following; 1. The pure and limpid water called the Horſe-Common Water, at

Hun-

Huntingdon, remarkable for its ſoftneſs and little ſediment. 2. The Purgative and Alterative Waters at *Hail-Weſton*, noted for there being three wells of different properties and uſes very near each other. And 3. The Chalybeate SOMERSHAM Water. The firſt mentioned ſprings at *Huntingdon* and *Hail-Weſton* may hereafter be made known; but in theſe pages I confine myſelf to the account of the SOMERSHAM Water.

The SOMERSHAM Water, commonly called the SOMERSHAM SPA, iſſues forth from the declivity of a ſmall hill, which is ſituated on a heath, bearing the ſame name, and lying near the high road, between the towns of *St. Ives* and SOMERSHAM, in the county of *Huntingdon*, about two miles and a half, or three miles diſtance from *St. Ives*. This heath was formerly cover'd by part of the royal foreſts, cut down in the reign of HENRY II. III. or of EDWARD I. and now ſerves only for the grazing of ſheep. Neither by record or tradition is it known when the SOMERSHAM Water was diſcovered; the earlieſt account to be depended upon is, that the SOMERSHAM Water having been drank at the end of the laſt century, but afterwards neglected, was revived under the patronage of the late Right Rev. Dr. MORE, Lord Biſhop of *Ely*,

Ely, who delighted much in the ſtudy of Natural Hiſtory and Phyſic. Drs. ADDENBROOKE and ASHENHURST, of *Cambridge*, and Dr. FULLWOOD of *Huntingdon*, not only examined this water, but made uſe of it in their practice.

About fifty years ago, His Grace WILLIAM late Duke of MANCHESTER, the late Right Hon. EDWARD Lord Viſcount HINCHINBROOK, Dr. WAKE, Lord Biſhop of LINCOLN, with the chief of the Gentry and Clergy in the counties of *Cambridge* and *Huntingdon*, joined in a ſubſcription for erecting a houſe near the ſpring; and by the indefatigable pains of the late Rev. Dr. SAMUEL KNIGHT, Prebendary of *Ely*, and Rector of *Bluntiſham*, a houſe was fitted up, a bowling-green, and proper accommodations were made.

Many perſons came to *St. Ives*, to SOMERSHAM, and to the pleaſant villages of *Earith*, *Colne*, *Pidley*, *Woodhurſt*, and *Old Hurſt*, to reſide during the ſummer, and drink this Water: others ſent for it to *Ely*, *Cambridge*, and even to ſome diſtant parts of *Lincolnſhire* and *Norfolk*; where it was drank not only as a medicine, but at table

mixed

mixed with wine. Some having injudiciouſly drank the SOMERSHAM Water while they laboured under a fit of the Stone or Gravel, which proved fatal to them; a report was ſpread that this Water was productive of the Stone; all that could be ſaid in defence of the Water by the Phyſicians, upon the ſtricteſt examination, was to no purpoſe; the torrent of prejudice could not be ſtemmed; the ſpring became totally neglected, and ſo few perſons continued the uſe of the Water, that the attendant's profit being very ſmall, the houſe fell to ruin; and leſt it ſhould become a harbour for looſe people, the materials were all removed.

However, a good opinion was ſtill entertained of the SOMERSHAM Water, from its manifeſt ſucceſs in many families. Phyſicians of great eminence then practiſing at *Cambridge*, and ſome ſtill in practice there, made experiments on this Water, and agreed in their opinion of the utility of it in ſeveral caſes, but could not diſcover the leaſt property in the Water of producing either Stone or Gravel. I have repeated the uſual experiments on the Medicinal Waters in the county of *Huntingdon*, every ſeaſon, from 1751 till 1761, with the greateſt care, and have obſerved the SOMERSHAM Water

to

to act as a diuretic in cases of the Stone and Gravel, and without the least inconvenience, provided the urinary passages were not obstructed, and the patient was free from a fever. Nay more, I have been supplied with SOMERSHAM Water in *London* every year from 1762 to 1767, and have been enabled, not only to repeat all the experiments, but to have them confirmed in my presence, and in the most obliging manner, by Dr. MORRIS, whose letter to me will appear in the Philosophical Transactions. This Water had the same effect on human *Calculi* when brought to *London*, as it had at *Huntingdon*.

In 1758, the contents and virtues of the SOMERSHAM Water being communicated, a subscription was opened to erect a house, and proper accommodations, near the spring, according to the plan laid before the Committee by Mr. ESSEX, and approved of by them, each person subscribing One Guinea at least; and from the following List of Subscribers, a Committee was appointed for the management of the Subscription.

A

LIST *of the* SUBSCRIBERS

TO THE

SOMERSHAM SPA.

N.B. *The Gentlemen to whoſe Names an Aſteriſm is prefixed, were of the Committee till the time of their deceaſe.*

THE PRESENT COMMITTEE ARE,

Dingley Aſkham, Eſq, *Chairman.*

Nicholas Bonfoy, Eſq;
John Cole, Eſq;
The Rev. Dr. Charles Dickens.
The Rev. Dr. Favell.
Charles Greene, Eſq;
Mr. Thomas Johnſon, *Steward.*
Dr. Layard
The Rev. Mr. Manning
Mr. Reade Peacock
Samuel Pratt, Eſq;
Mr. Thomas Skeeles, *Surgeon, Steward*
John Thomſon, Eſq;

A

Charles Allix, Eſq;
Mr. Samuel Archdeacon, *Surgeon*
Dingley Aſkham, Eſq;
Robert Auſtin, Eſq;
Mrs. Eliz. Akehurſt
Mrs. Catherine Allix

B

Sir Robert Bernard, Bart.
Sir James Burroughs, Knt. *late Maſter of Gonville and Caius College in Cambridge*
The Rev. Richard Barford, D.D.
The Rev. John Barnard, M.A.
Mr. William Barnes, *Merchant*
William Nailour Blundell, Eſq;
Cha. Boiſragon, Eſq;
Nicholas Bonfoy, Eſq;
Mr. Aaron Brown, *Merchant*
Mr. Philip Bull
John Burgoyne, Eſq;
Mr. James Burleigh, *Merchant*
The Rev. Henry Burrough, B.L.L.
The Rev. Robert Butts, M. A.
Mrs. —— Barnard
Miſs Hannah Maria Bonnin

C

The Right Hon. John Lord Carysfort
The Rev. Richard Caryer, M. A.
Thomas Clarke, Eſq;
The Rev. John Clarke, M. A.
Powell Clough, Eſq:
John Cole, Eſq;
James Collier, Eſq;
Charles Kellond Courtenay, Eſq;
The Rev. Allen Cowper, M.A.
The Right Hon. Elizabeth Lady Carysfort
Mrs. Jane Clarke
Mrs. Jane Currier

D

Sir William Duncan, Bart. M.D. *Phyſician to his Majeſty*
James Dargent, M.D. *Phyſician to the Weſtminſter-Hoſpital*
Mr. Richard Dawes, *Surgeon*
Peter Deſcow, Eſq;
The Rev. Charles Dickens, L.L.D.
Francis Philip Duval, M.D. *Phyſician to her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Dowager of Wales*
Mrs. Mary Dickens
Miſs Suſanna Dickens

E

The Right Rev. Matthias Mawſon, D.D. *Lord Biſhop of* Ely

F

The Rev. James Favell, D.D.
CoulſonFellowes, Eſq;
Mr. Hugh Ferrar
The Rev. John Fountayne, D.D. *Dean of York*
JohnFothergill, M.D.
Mrs. Elizabeth Favell

G

The Rev. John Gallaway, M.A.
William Gery, Eſq;
The Rev. John Gooch, D.D.
Mr. Henry Grant
Mr. Henry Gray
The Rev. Thomas Greene, D.D. *Dean of Salisbury*
Charles Greene, Eſq;
ThomasGriffith, Eſq;
Mrs. Elizabeth Gore
Mrs. Anna Maria Gray
Mrs. CatherineGreene
Mrs. Matilda Greene

H

The Rt. Hon. George LordViſcountHinchinbrook
Mr. Thomas Hall, *Surgeon*
General Roger Handaſyd
Cæſar Hawkins, Eſq; *Serjeant Surgeon to his Majeſty*

Pennel

Pennel Hawkins, Esq; *Surgeon to Her Majesty*
William Heberden, M D.
Mr. Edw. Holditch, *Apothecary.*
*Samuel Holworthy, Esq;
Mr. Daniel Hopkins, *Surgeon*
Tho. Houghton, Esq;
William Hunter, M. D. *Physician Extraordinary to her Majesty*
The Right Hon. Elizabeth Lady Viscountess Hinchinbrook
Mrs. Elizabeth Holworthy
Mrs. Ann Howard

I

John Jackson, Esq;
Soame Jenyns, Esq;
Mr. John Jennings, *Merchant.*
William Ingle, Esq;
Robert Jones, Esq;
Mr. Thomas Johnson
John Obadiah Justamond, Esq; *Surgeon to the First Troop of Horse Grenadier Guards*
Mrs. Elizabeth Ingle

K

Christopher Kelly, M.D.
Mr. John Kent
The Rev. Samuel Knight, M.A.

L

Peter Earl Ludlow
The Right Rev. John Thomas, D.D. *late Lord Bishop of Lincoln*
The Rev. Peter Lafargue, M.A.
Daniel Peter Layard, M.D. *Physician to her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales*

Edward

Edward Leeds, Esq
Mr. Charles Leeds
Mr. Thomas Litchfield, *Surgeon*
The Rev. Roger Long, D.D. *Master of Pembroke Hall in Cambridge.*
The Rev. Thomas Lydiatt, M.A.
Mrs. Mary Ann Lafargue
Mrs. Susanna Henrietta Layard
Mrs. Ann Lydiatt

M

His Grace Robert *late* Duke of Manchester.
His Grace George Duke of Manchester.
The Right Hon. Lord Charles Greville Montagu
Sir Thomas Mackworth, Bart.
Edward Montagu, Esq;
The Rev. Owen Manning, B.D.
The Rev. Charles Mason, D.D.
Matthew Maty, M.D. *Secretary to the Royal Society, &c.*
Mr. Henry Maule, *Merchant*
Michael Morris, M.D. *Physician to the Westminster Hospital.*
Mr. George Muriel, *Surgeon*
Mr. Robert Muriel, *Surgeon*
Her Grace Elizabeth Duchess of Manchester
Lady Mackworth
Mrs. Catherine Manning
Mrs. Mary Maule

N

Francis Nailour, Esq;
The Rev. George Nailour, M.A.

O

The Rev. George Oram, M.A.

Mr. Francis Overall

P

Sir John Pringle, Bart. M. D. *Physician to Her Majesty*
Robert Pigott, Esq;
Samuel Pratt, Esq;
Mr. Robert Parnell, *Apothecary*
Mr. Joseph Partridge, *Apothecary*
Mr. Reade Peacock
The Rev. Trimnell Peacock, M.A.
The Rev. John Pennington, M.A.
The Rev. John Pennington, jun. M.A.
The Rev. John Peverell, M.A.
Mrs. Sarah Peacock
Mrs. Elizabeth Pennington

R

The Rev. George Reynolds, L.L.D.
Richard Reynolds, Esq;
Bateman Robson, Esq;

S

John Earl of Sandwich
The Hon. and Rev. Robert Sherard, M.A.
The Rev. Castell Sherard, M.A.
Mr. Thomas Skeeles, *Surgeon*
The Rev. Richard Southgate, M.A.
*Mr. Anthony South, *Merchant*
Mr Anthony South, *Surgeon*
Mr. William Spence, *Surgeon*
George Steevens, Esq;
The Rev. Charles Sturges, M.A.
Thomas Sturges, Esq;
Dorothy Countess of Sandwich

T

The Rev. Robert Tench, M.A.

William

William Thomſon, Eſq;
John Thomſon, Eſq;
The Rev. Clement Tookie, M.A.
Mr. George Tookie, *Surgeon*
Robert Cotton Trefuſis, Eſq;
The Rev. Henry Trotter, B.D.
The Hon. Mrs. Ann Trefuſis
Miſs Mary Thomſon

U

William Underwood, Eſq;
Mr. Michael Underwood, *Surgeon to the Britiſh Lying-in Hoſpital*
The Rev. Mr. Morley Unwin, B.D.

V

Mr. Robert Vickery, *Surgeon*

W

Sir William Peere Williams, Bart.
Sir Clifton Wintringham, Knt. M.D. *Phyſician to His Majeſty.*
The Rev. James Waller, M.A.
Richard Warren, M.D. *Phyſician to His Majeſty.*
Mr. Henry Watſon, *Surgeon to the Weſtminſter Hoſpital*
The Rev. William Whitworth, M.A.
The Rev. William Williams, M.A.
* Mr. George Williams
Benjamin Woodward, Eſq;
Mrs. Mary Warner
Mrs. Martha Weedon
Mrs. Suſanna Williams

*** Such perſons whoſe names are not come to hand, and are omitted in the foregoing liſt, ſhall be inſerted in the next edition; and whoever is diſpoſed to honor the ſubſcription, are deſired to give in their names, and places of abode, and to pay what they intend to contribute to any of the undermentioned perſons, viz. To Mr. *Robert Parnell*, Apothecary, the corner of *Hatton-Garden* in *Holborn*, *London*; Mr. *Thomas Johnſon*, Attorney at Law, and Mr. *Thomas Skeeles*, Surgeon and Apothecary, at St. *Ives*; Mr. *Henry Gray*, at *Godmancheſter*; and Meſſrs. *Thurlbourn* and *Woodyer*, Bookſellers in *Cambridge*, who will give printed receipts ſigned by the Stewards.

On the 19th of *May*, 1758, the Committee Ordered, that the ſubſequent RULES and REGULATIONS be the RULES and ORDERS for the Direction of the SOMERSHAM SPA.

RULES *and* ORDERS

For the Management of the

SOMERSHAM SPA.

I. THAT from among the Gentlemen Subſcribers, thirteen be choſen annually a Committee; the Proprietor and two Stewards always included. And of this number one to be elected Chairman, who ſhall preſide at all meetings, unleſs a Peer or member of the Houſe of Commons be preſent; and in caſe more than one be preſent, ſuch Peer, or Member of the Houſe of Commons, ſhall preſide according to his rank, unleſs he declines it to the Chairman.

II. That the Committee ſhall meet at ſuch times and place in *St. Ives* as they ſhall think neceſſary; and whenever a meeting is deſired by the Proprietor or Stewards, a week's notice muſt be given by the Stewards.

III,

III. That the Committee ſhall have power from time to time, to form ſuch regulations and orders for the uſe of the SPA as may render it effectual; give orders for the erecting proper accommodations and conveniencies; ſettle with the Proprietor ſuch a plan as ſhall appear moſt beneficial, and alſo audit the Stewards accounts.

IV. The Committee propoſed by the Proprietor and Stewards on *Monday*, *April* the 3d, 1758, to continue till the firſt *Monday* in *April* 1759, and then be either continued, vacancies filled up, or others choſe, as the majority ſhall think fit; in which caſe the Proprietor, two Stewards, and four more of the preceding Committee to be continued.

V. That the Stewards appointed by the Subſcribers, and approved of by the Proprietor, receive the ſubſcriptions, inſpect the repairs and improvements, pay the expences, and yearly give an account to the Subſcribers of the preceding year's receipts and diſburſements.

VI. That the Committee appoint a Clerk to attend them, to take the minutes, enter the orders in a book, ſend notice of meetings in writing, or to the *Cambridge* Paper, which Clerk ſhall deliver all papers, minute-book, &c. to the Stewards; and ſhall be allowed for

or ſuch trouble ſuch a fee at each meeting, as the Committee of Subſcribers ſhall direct.

VIII. That the hours of attendance at the SPA, be from five o'clock in the morning till ſeven, for the poor; and from ſeven till twelve at noon for other perſons. That no gratuity be taken by any ſervant, or ſervants, from any poor perſon; the ſervant in default to be immediately diſcharged. A certificate of the perſon being a proper object of charity, ſigned by the Miniſter of the Pariſh, or by ſome reputable perſon in that pariſh, is to be given to the ſervant.—Every perſon claiming, and having a right of Common on SOMERSHAM Heath, to have the Water *gratis* for their own uſe, on giving to the ſervant their names and places of abode. Subſcribers to pay Five Shillings *per* ſeaſon. Non-ſubſcribers to pay Seven Shillings and Sixpence *per* ſeaſon, or Twopence a quart. The ſervant to be paid out of the ſubſcription Four Shillings a week, from the firſt of *May* to the firſt of *October*, unleſs the gratuities from the Water-drinkers render ſuch payment unneceſſary.

IX. That a licence be obtained for the ſervant or ſervants to ſell wine, ſpirituous or malt liquors, when a proper houſe is fitted up for the reception of thoſe who uſe the Water;

water; and leave be given to accommodate the company with tea, coffee, chocolate, medicinal tinctures, drops, ſalts, and other neceſſaries of uſe in ſuch places; as alſo to dreſs any proviſions, and entertain company, provided good hours be kept, and no rioting or debauchery of any ſort be ſuffered. On any complaint of ſuch irregularity, and that clearly proved, the ſervant to be diſcharged by the Proprietor.

X. That the Subſcribers ſhall have the free uſe of the Bowling-Green, and of the Cold Bath when compleated, paying only ſome ſmall gratuity to the perſon attending the Green, and what is uſual at other Cold Baths to attendants.

XI. That an alphabetical liſt of the Subſcribers, and one of the Commoners, as alſo a table of the Rules and Orders, be kept at the SPA for public inſpection.

XII. That for promoting the good effects, and more extenſive uſe of this water, ſuch perſons who are inclined be deſired to communicate to the Proprietor (under cover directed to one of the Stewards) the benefit they have received, which ſhall either be mentioned, or repreſented with ſuch caution, as not to expoſe the perſon relieved, ſhould they enjoin ſecreſy.

DIREC-

DIRECTIONS *for the* DRINKING THE SOMERSHAM WATER.

THE SOMERSHAM Water is a Chalybeate Water, ſtrongly impregnated with the vitriol of iron and allum. It is much ſtronger in dry than in wet ſeaſons; is to be drank at the ſpring-head from the beginning of *May* to the beginning of *October*; will bear carriage to any diſtance; and can be kept a long while, even years, if bottled carefully, at a proper ſeaſon; alſo it may be drank at any time of the year, if directed.

In whatever manner the SOMERSHAM Water is preſcribed, whether to be drank pure, at the ſpring-head, or at a diſtance; or when mixed with milk, or made into whey with milk; it will always be proper to purge before the perſon begins to drink it. The phyſician muſt direct what ſort of purge will beſt ſuit his patient, according to the nature o the complaint. Such who do not require any particular treatment, may take half an ounce of *Rochelle* ſalts, diſ-

ſolved

ſolved in a wine glaſs of the SOMERSHAM Water, warmed by pouring ſome hot pure ſpring water into the glaſs, to prevent the SOMERSHAM Water and the ſalts from chilling the drinker. Preſerved Carraway, or Cardamom ſeeds or Orange-peel, may then be eaten, and the perſon muſt either walk or ride gently, but neither apply to reading, writing, or working, in a ſitting poſture; for a giddineſs would come on, as I have often experienced, having purpoſely tried ſeveral times the effects of application to read, or write, immediately after drinking the SOMERSHAM Water, and have conſtantly had a ſwimming of my head; which, however, has been carried off inſtantly, upon walking into the open air; but then the Water will be apt to turn the ſtomach ſick, and to work off by ſtool. — I muſt acquaint my readers, that it is the property of moſt Chalybeate Waters to tinge the ſtools black, ſo that they ſhould not be alarmed at ſuch an appearance from drinking the SOMERSHAM Water.

About half an hour after the firſt glaſs a ſecond may be drank, and a third half an hour afterwards, always mixing ſome hot water to warm the Chalybeate Water; after the third glaſs, the perſon may breakfaſt as

uſual

uſual with tea, coffee, or thin chocolate bread, and butter, dry toaſted bread, or biſcuits, avoiding particularly to eat hot bread. The next day after purging, the courſe of drinking may begin, and be continued three weeks or a month, purging at the end of that time as before; and may be purſued afreſh, or reaſſumed, towards autumn, or left off entirely, as may be neceſſary.

In the afternoon, ſhould the caſe require it, the patient may drink a glaſs or two, taking proper exerciſe; and after dinner, a wine glaſs full, or two, may be of uſe mixed with wine; but then great care muſt be had not to eat ſuch heavy, greaſy, or ſlimy food, as may diſorder the ſtomach; nor to overload it.

I muſt caution my readers not to drink the SOMERSHAM Water whenever there are acidities in the ſtomach, which will be known by the ſour riſings from the ſtomach into the mouth; ſhould a medicinal Water be neceſſary, they will prefer *Briſtol*, *Bath*, *Tilbury*, or *Tunbridge* Waters, as moſt likely to correct thoſe acidities which the SOMERSHAM Water would increaſe.

As to the quantity to be drank, generally three glaſſes, holding each a quarter of a pint, and at the above-mentioned diſtances are ſufficient; but ſome perſons can bear even half a pint, or more at a draught, while others cannot, nor ſhould not drink ſo much as a quarter of a pint.

The Waters may alſo be directed to be drank mixed with warm milk from the aſs or cow, or made into whey, by boiling the Chalybeate Water with the ſame quantity of milk, and carefully ſtraining the whey from the curd. In ſeveral caſes, but particularly conſumptive perſons, I have found the benefit of ſuch mixtures. This whey doth not require that the patient ſhould take ſo much exerciſe as when the Water is only mixed with milk, or drank by itſelf.

When the Water is carried to any diſtance, an ochry ſediment is to be ſeen at the bottom of the bottle, which fouls the Water on pouring it out; the way to drink it clear, and agreably, is to pour the Chalybeate Water into the glaſs through a very fine linnen cloth, and it will then have its uſual tranſparency and ſparkling. But, when

at

at a diſtance, whey is required, there will be no need of ſtraining, till the whey is made; ſo that the Water, though ſhaken and foul, may be mixed, and boiled with the milk.

The uſe of the SOMERSHAM Water will not prevent the continuance of ſuch medicines as the Phyſician may think ſuitable to his patient. In many caſes they will aſſiſt each other.

Notwithſtanding this kingdom is providentially watered with various ſprings of great utility, this Chalybeate Water is the only one of the kind yet diſcovered: like every good medicine, this powerful Water, is neither proper for all conſtitutions, or all diſorders: it will, therefore, be indiſpenſably neceſſary for the ſick to conſult their Phyſician before they venture to drink improperly a water, whoſe contents might prove contrary, if not hurtful to them; for it may ſo happen to thoſe Phyſicians, as it has to me, inſtead of recommending the SOMERSHAM Water, to ſend patients to *Briſtol*, *Bath*, *Tunbridge*, *Scarborough*, and to other Waters, as more ſuitable in their complaints.

I ſhall now only add in what diſeaſes I have chiefly found the SOMERSHAM Water efficacious. In debilities of the ſtomach and bowels; in dyſenteries, hæmorrhoids, and worms; in nidoroſe crudities of the ſtomach; but not in acid, which *Briſtol*, *Tilbury*, and *Tunbridge* Water will remove. In obſtructions of the liver and ſpleen, in jaundices in adults. In uterine complaints, ſchirrus, cancers, hæmorrhages, obſtructions, the fluor albus, and after abortion promoting conception. In the ſtone and gravel, gonorrhœa, weakneſs, ulcers in the bladder, and diabetes. In hyſteric and hypochondriac affections. In a *maraſmus*, in conſumptions from a ſcorbutic habit of body; in the ſcurvy, rheumatic pains, and ſome gouty perſons. Externally applied to foul ulcers and cancers.

The SOMERSHAM Water is not to be recommended to perſons who are troubled with the vertigo; in all *aſthmas*, except the ſpaſmodic, from an hyſteric or hypochondriacal cauſe; nor in the *anaſarca*, or tympany; or to ſuch perſons, who, through age or bulk, cannot take ſufficient exerciſe, or have ſwelled legs. The Water is cautiouſly to be adviſed in obſtructions of the *menſes*,

menſes, in plethoric conſtitutions, and abſolutely forbid as hurtful, until proper evacuations have been made.

This is, although imperfect, the whole account I could communicate at preſent, which I hope will prove neither uſeleſs or unſatisfactory to my readers.

*** The SOMERSHAM Water is to be had at ~~Mr. *Robert Parnell's*, Apothecary, the Corner of *Hatton-Garden* in *Holborn*~~, and no where elſe in *London*.

Owen's Mineral-Water-Warehouse Fleet-street

